REMARKS:

Claims 1, 4-7, and 9-29 were previously pending in the application. In the Examiner's November 17, 2003 Office Action, claims 7 and 9-29 were allowed but claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected.

Claims 1 and 4-6 have been cancelled by way of this Amendment. Thus, only claims 7 and 9-29, which were allowed by the Examiner in the last Office Action, remain pending.

Although claim 29 was previously allowed, Applicant noticed an error in the preamble. Specifically, the preamble incorrectly recites a method wherein the claim limitations are written in apparatus format. The claim has been amended to correct this error. No new matter has been added to the application because of this Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, a Notice of Allowance appears to be in order and such is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP

By:

Thomas B. Luebbering, Reg. No. 37,874

2405 Grand Boulevard, Suite 400

Kansas City, Missouri 64108

(816) 474-9050

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT